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INCREASE IN FINNISH SECONDARY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

The Bureau of Statistics has compiled a survey of Finnish secondary schools for the 1950-51 academic year. Among other things, the survey reveals that the number of schools has increased by 105, or 45 percent, since the 1938-39 academic year. The number of Finnish-language schools increased by 131, or 54 percent, and Swedish-language schools increased by four, or 9 percent, from the prewar number. At the end of 1951, Finland had a total of 239 Finnish-language and 49 Swedish-language secondary schools.

The number of students increased 76.6 percent from the 1938 to 1939 figure when it was 26,327. At the end of 1951, the number of students was 42,113. For the 1950-51 academic year, of the total attendance 87.7 percent was in Finnish-language schools and 12.3 percent in Swedish-language schools.

The attendance of Finnish-speaking students in Swedish-language schools was increased in number as well as in proportion during the period from 1948 to 1951. During the 1938-39 year, there were 97 Finnish-speaking students in Swedish-language schools and 642 Swedish-speaking students in Finnish-language schools. At present, the situation is reversed, since during the 1950-51 academic year there were 1,219 Finnish-speaking students in the Swedish-language schools and 409 Swedish-speaking students in the Finnish-language schools. Students whose native tongue was neither Finnish nor Swedish numbered only 200, or 0.2 percent of the total number in 1950 to 1951.

The state expenditures during 1951-52 for secondary education were 15 times as great as they were for the term prior to the Winter War of 1939-40. Expenditures of private schools increased 22 times during the same period. Though the total number of instructors has steadily increased, the number of regular teachers on the teaching staff decreased from the 1938 - 1939 percentage of 51.1 of the total, to 43.2 percent of the total in 1950 - 1951.

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